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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Kazue WATANABE

Serial No. : (U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP2004/009345)  
Filed June 24, 2004)

For : INK-ACCEPTING LAYER FORMING  
MATERIAL AND WATER-BASE INK

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Preliminary to examination, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: